

Serial No. 10/775,064

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PF 54338

A P P E N D I X I:

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Amend Claim 1 as indicated in the following listing of the claims:

1. (currently amended) A process for preparing oligomers of alkenes having from 4 to 8 carbon atoms from a feed stream comprising such alkenes or hydrocarbon streams in which such alkenes are present over a nickel-containing, heterogeneous catalyst in n successive adiabatically operated reactors, where n is 2 or an integer greater than 2, at from 30 to 280°C and pressures of from 1 to 300 bar, where the feed stream has a temperature T_{in} when it enters the first reaction zone, experiences a temperature increase in each reaction zone and, ~~if this temperature increase is by~~ more than $T_{in} + 20^\circ\text{C}$, and is brought to a temperature in the range $T_{in} \pm 20^\circ\text{C}$ before it enters a subsequent reaction zone, wherein the feed stream is divided and the feed substreams obtained in this way are fed to the 2 reactors, or ~~if in the event that~~ more than 2 reactors are used to at least 2 of the reactors, with addition of fresh feed in such a way that the temperature in one of the reactors is at most 20°C higher than that in each of the other reactors used.
2. (original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein T_{in} is in the range from 20 to 120°C.
3. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the temperature in one of the reactors is at most 10°C higher than that in each of the other reactors used.
4. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the proportion of oligomers in the feed stream and in the feed substreams does not exceed 30% by weight.
5. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the feed stream and the feed substreams is/are reacted in condensed form.